Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 IO-13 IGA-02 /078 W -------181301Z 078734/65

R 181215Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1318 INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EGEN EFIN CG

SUBJECT: NEXT PARIS CLUB MEETING ON ZAIRE

REF: PARIS 00834

IDEALLY, THE NEXT PARIS CLUB MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE SHORTLY AFTER MOBUTU FORMALLY REQUESTS A SECOND STANDBY AND AGREES TO A SECOND STABILIZATION PROGRAM. OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THE IMF TEAM WILL RETURN TO ZAIRE AROUND FEBRUARY 4 -- APPROXIMATE DATE OF MOBUTU'S RETURN FROM CURRENT TRIP -- TO PUT FINISHING TOUCHES ON SECOND STABILIZATION PROGRAM. ASSUMING MOBUTU SIGNS ON WITHIN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF FEBRUARY, WE ASSUME FURTHER THAT IMF BOARD CAN APPROVE BY END OF FEBRUARY. BY THEN, WE WILL ALSO HAVE A CLEARER VIEW OF HOW WELL CITIBANK HAS DONE IN RAISING THE \$250 MILLION LOAN.

- 2. THEN, WE SEE EARLY MARCH AS THE BEST TIME FOR THE NEXT PARIS CLUB MEETING, DEPENDING ON THE PROGRESS OF THE ACTION IN PARA ONE ABOVE.
- 3. WE FURTHER SUGGEST THAT WE HOLD OFF ON OUR BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL THE TIME OF THE NEXT PARIS CLUB. WE COULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEN WRAP UP BOTH 1976 AND 1977. POSTPONING BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WOULD ALSO GIVE US TIME TO WORK OUT THE PL-480 FORGIVENESS PROGRAM (KINSHASA 431) AND THEM PUT US IN A POSITION TO PRESENT A LOWER EFFECTIVE INTEREST RATE THAN THE ONE WE NOW UNDERSTAND IS BEING CONSIDERED.

4. LASTLY, AND SINCE THE ISSUE OF THE NEXT PARIS CLUB MEETING

HAS ARISEN, WE WISH TO PROPOSE THAT ECON COUNSELOR NETTLES BE MADE A MEMBER OF THE USDEL. CUTLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: ECONOMIC STABILITY, PLANNING MEETINGS, DEVELOPMENT BANKS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 18-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KINSHA00434
Document Source: Conditional Conditions (Conditional Conditional Conditiona

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770018-0472 Format: TEL

From: KINSHASA Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770142/aaaabksm.tel

Line Count: 65 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 977d47d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 PARIS 834

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3574183 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: NEXT PARIS CLUB MEETING ON ZAIRE

TAGS: EGEN, EFIN, CG, PARIS CLUB

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/977d47d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009